



THE INTERMITTENT SHORT

August 2011

First off, my apologies for this news letter being so late. I have been indisposed with an ailment and hopefully will be getting better soon.

On May 20th, 2011 Hennepin County Medical Center hosted our quarterly meeting sponsored by ACT Service. The Topics of Discussion was Lighthouse Imaging demonstrating of how to quantitatively measure the optical quality of rigid endoscopes, as well as measure the amount of light in a sample endoscopic system. The Joint Commission has recently ruled that endoscopes be included in medical equipment inventory for member hospitals. The importance of this ruling and the elements of JCAHO EC.02.04.01 as it relates to endoscope quality were discussed along with a brief slide show presentation. Test and measurement equipment from Lighthouse Imaging can provide the capability for hospital biomedical and clinical engineering personnel to verify and monitor the quality of endoscopes, reducing unnecessary repair costs and enhancing patient safety. Both the Endobench endoscope image quality tester and the Endolume endoscope system light tester were demonstrated. As with others, I now have a better understanding of what exactly the JC requirements are and how I can ensure compliance within our organization. If you missed it, there will be another chance at the annual conference to attend this training.



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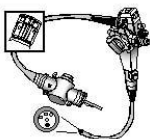
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next quarterly meeting of the NCBA will be:

Our 18th Annual NCBA Conference 21-23 Sept. 2011
at Chase on the Lake Resort, Walker, MN

Nov/Dec quarterly meeting: **OPEN** sign up now....

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2011

Hennepin County Medical Center
Minneapolis, MN

The quarterly meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.
by: President, Brent Bahr.

Members present: 18, Guest: 1

Secretary's Report

The secretary read the minutes from the March 2011 quarterly meeting. Bill W. moved to accept the minutes as written. Ray N. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's report

The treasurer gave their report reflecting the current balance of \$3,450.50 as of 20 May 2011. Ken C. made a motion to accept the report. Bill W. seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

Old Business

Mark R. had contacted some vendor/members about advertising on the NCBA web page. The interest was all positive. It was agreed on that a fee of \$120.00 a year for a link to the vendor's web site would be charged to all interested parties. In addition, if they would like to put a special ad (1/2 page) the cost would be \$240.00 a year or \$60.00 per quarter. This was agreed upon by members present and passed unanimously. All vendors from last year conference would be added to the web page and if they wished to continue after the conference, then the fee would be imposed.

The cost of posting job announcements was discussed and it was decided that membership are for the individual members and not the organization. Therefore a set fee of \$15.00 would be charged for running an employment advertisement for 3 months.

New Business

It was suggested that the NCBA be more proactive with the members by coming up with a monthly news letter or something along that line as apposed to the quarterly news letters. This will be discussed further and various resources will be reviewed.

Ray N. suggested that some of previous presentation at the quarterly meetings be re-presented the Annual Conference. An attempt will be made to accommodate this request.

Ray N. made motion to adjourn the meeting, Ken E. seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.



**Have you checked out the new web page? www.ncbiomed.org
We are excited and want you to be involved. Send any comments good or bad to ncba@ncbiomed.org
We would love to hear what you think.**

Your Help is Needed

At the request of the current advisory board for the Biomedical Electronics program at DCTC, we are extending an invite to all NCBA members that might be interested in becoming an advisory board member.

The advisory committee is made up of representatives from the industry that the program was designed to serve. This includes but is not limited to manufactures, vendors providing biomedical services, homecare facilities, imaging vendors, dialysis vendors, and staff working in the hospital environment. The committee member is charged with the task of keeping the

instructional program current as possible with respect to technology, trends, and industry expectations.

The success of any college depends upon the quality of the input from its advisory committee. The committee member must be well versed and experienced in the programs occupational area and willing to donate the time and energy required of advisory committee members.

The committee may be asked to advice and make recommendations on curricular content, purchasing equipment, placement of graduates, program evaluations, budgeting, recruitment, staffing, and public relations.

The time commitment for this committee is three years. There are two meetings held each school year either in person or via conference call that are scheduled in Nov and May.

If you are interested, please send a written request expressing your interest that includes: your name and mailing address, your phone number, and your e-mail address to:

Vickie Snyder via e-mail: vsnyder4@fairview.org or call 612-273-5622

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President

Brent Bahr
Medtronic
763-514-6856
brent.allen.bahr@medtronic.com

Vice-President

Holly Johnson
U of M Med Center Riverside
612-273-9399
ljohns52@fairview.org

Treasurer

Andrea Haar
Essentia Health
St. Joseph Medical Center
218-828-7326
andrea.haar@essentiahealth.org

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Struther's Award of Excellence

The Struther's Award of Excellence is an honor bestowed to a NCBA member during our Annual Conference. Please consider nominating a co-worker, manager or friend who deserves to be recognized for his/her work in the biomedical/clinical engineering field.

Past Struther's Award winners are:

- 1998 – Dave Pedersen
- 1999 – Jim Skipper
- 2000 – Sue Finney
- 2001 – Vickie Snyder
- 2002 – Deborah Schweigert
- 2003 – Ray Nielsen
- 2005 – Bob Tholand
- 2006 – Rodney Severson and Jennifer Kriske
- 2008 – Janice Courtois and Jim Hedlund



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The Intermittent Short

At the conference, we will be taking nominations and voting on these two positions. If you are interested in being nominated, contact one of the NCBA Officers for assistance. This Association is only as good as its members.

Official Duties of the NCBA Vice President

Duties start during the change of officers which is held at the 1st Quarterly meeting. Duties include assisting with all committee member decisions, helping determine locations/times for all quarterly meetings, and assisting the other officers with any NCBA tasks when requested. Duties pertaining to the annual conference are as follows: recruiting vendors for the vendor show, setting up classes and contacting vendors/educators to participate, putting the conference schedule together, and in the months following the conference, helping to determine the location of the next annual conference. Final duties include assisting the new Vice President with the transition and providing any useful information relevant to the next annual conference to the new committee members.

Official Duties of the NCBA Treasurer

Duties start during the change of officers which is held at the 1st Quarterly meeting. At the 1st quarter meeting the past Treasurer will hand off all of the documents and assist with any questions the new Treasurer might have. Past Treasurer will also accompany the new Treasurer to Wells Fargo Bank to add his/her name to the account. New Treasurer must setup a PO Box and also send in Non Profit Form to Secretary of State to renew license by November 1st. After PO Box and account is set up new Treasurer will start taking all incoming payments, disbursing payments and is responsible for keeping the books up to date. During every meeting the Treasurer is responsible for providing a current financial report for the members. Duties also consist of helping plan quarterly meetings and the annual conference wherever he/she is needed.

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I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who responded to my question earlier this year. I had over 20 replies to the question:

“Since job posting require experience, how do you get a job in the Biomed Community without any experience?

Where do you get this experience if no one will hire you?”

The overall consensus was that you need to find time and volunteer your time at one or more of the local facilities in your area. Through this program, you can gain the necessary experience to pursue your career dreams.

Now I have some more questions for you. Is there a list of facilities that offer this apprenticeship style program? If not, would you be interested in having one added to our resources? Is there a standard format of teaching/training that is performed? (Check off sheet) How does an organization provide this service (Insurance, Liability...) Please feel free to contact me with your answers so that we as an association can help future generations of BMET's get their foot in the door.